

IN THE US PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

April 27, 2005

Applicants: Dieter Eckert et al.

Title : CYLINDER HEAD GASKET

Serial No.: 10/647,363 Examiner: Peavey

Filed: Aug. 25, 2003 Confirmation No. 2224

Group: 3676

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

IDS

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is Form 1449 citing documents cited in the search report (copy enclosed) of the European Patent Office. The undersigned certifies that the documents of the European search report were forwarded to him by the European associate by letter dated February 22, 2005, following receipt of the European search report on December 13, 2004, by the European associate.

The listed German document DE-35 43 641-Al is the publication of a German patent application and was published on June 19, 1987. No English language equivalent of the German document is known.

However, the drawings of the DE-35 43 641-A1 are believed to be sufficient for understanding the disclosure of this document. For example, the drawings show an engine block 10, a cylinder head 12, and a cylinder head gasket 14. This gasket 14 has a sheet metal layer 14a with a coolant passage opening to which a flow conducting element 16 is joined. As indicated by arrows in Figures 1, 2, 3A, and 4 of the German document, a flow of coolant flows against the cylinder head gasket in a direction

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perpendicular to the plane of the cylinder head gasket because this flow of coolant is directed against the cylinder head gasket by a bore-like channel 10a in the engine block and a bore-like channel 12a in the cylinder head, respectively. As a result, it is only the pressure difference in the coolant system between the two sides of the cylinder head gasket which drives the coolant through the coolant passage opening and the flow conducting element 16 of the cylinder head gasket.

US Patent 5 000 464 also listed on the IDS shows a system very similar to that of DE-35 43 641-A1.

US Patent 3 765 385 is not believed to be as pertinent as the other listed documents.

Applicants petition and request that the examiner consider the listed documents and make them of record.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee for this petition and IDS to my deposit account No. 20-1124.

Respectfully submitted,

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Edward J. Timmer

Reg. No. 27 402

Enclosure: Form 1449 & copy of German document

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service under 37 CFR 1.8 as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 2, 2005.

Edward J. T/1mme/

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